

STIMULUS WATCH: WEEK 13

Wisconsin Uses \$15.8 Million in Stimulus Money on Rarely Used Bridges—Leaves Deficient Bridges Wanting

- Wisconsin has decided to use their Stimulus money to repair 37 bridges that carry only about 500 cars each day, ignoring 1,256 “structurally deficient” bridges in need of immediate repair.
- One rural bridge in Iowa County, which will receive \$430,000, carries only about 10 cars a day. \$840,000 will be spent to connect 260 cars a day to a golf course and Rusty’s Backwater Saloon. Dave Lucey, one town chairman receiving stimulus funding for a little-used bridge, commented in astonishment, “I was surprised as anyone... I can tell you that bridge is a low priority for us.”
- Meanwhile, 1,256 “structurally deficient” bridges of Wisconsin go untreated by the Democrats’ Stimulus money. According to the State of Wisconsin, small “low priority” projects were moved to the front of their line because the more needy bridges would take too long to repair.
- Under the House Republican Stimulus Alternative, federal dollars would not have been spent on bridges that almost nobody uses. Instead, Republicans would have created twice as many jobs at half the cost. To learn how visit:
<http://republicanwhip.house.gov/Jobs/>
- **Sources:** <http://www.jsonline.com/news/wisconsin/42103902.html>
<http://www.jsonline.com/news/statepolitics/41411607.html>
<http://www.jsonline.com/news/wisconsin/42103902.html>
<http://www.rustys.net/graphics/menu1.jpg>

The Washington Watch Report is available on the House Republican Whip’s website: <http://republicanwhip.house.gov/WashingtonWatch/>.

It is updated weekly with new items of wasteful stimulus spending, a look at jobs created by the stimulus, and a video of Members discussing specific examples.